



News from the Education for Homeless Children and Youth Office: August 7, 2009

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act: *Maintaining Educational Continuity for Homeless Children and Youth in Vermont*

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Updated 2009-2010 Homeless Education Liaison List ... All supervisory unions are required to **designate a Homeless Education Liaison**. In Vermont, the CFP application will provide that information to the DOE. A **complete list of Homeless Education Liaisons** is located on the Homeless Education website at: http://education.vermont.gov/new/pdfdoc/pgm_homeless/educ_homeless_liaisons.pdf. Please take a moment and verify your contact information. Any changes should be directed to Wendy Ross, State Coordinator, Education for Homeless Children and Youth, at wendy.ross@state.vt.us.

VHCYP Changes... The Vermont Department of Education subgrants funding to UVM to support homeless education technical assistance services to schools through the Vermont Homeless Children and Youth Project. Mike Mulcahy serves as the state coordinator of the VHCYP and can be reached at 828-5108.

Every SU in the state has a VHCYP technical assistance staff person to support your work with services to homeless students. Recently, the regions served by VHCYP staff were realigned by supervisory union areas. This link provides a list of SUs served by **Donna Griffin (Northern Region)**, **Sally Williams (Central Region)** and **Jane Munroe (Southern Region)** as well as contact information:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/pdfdoc/pgm_homeless/educ_regional_changes_vespp_vhcyp.pdf

In addition, an **updated VHCYP brochure** is now online at:
http://education.vermont.gov/new/pdfdoc/pgm_homeless/educ_homeless_brochure.pdf

New Liaison Orientations... If you are a **new Liaison** you will receive a personal orientation to the requirements of the McKinney Vento Law, Homeless Education Liaison responsibilities and the resources available to you both online and through the VHCYP.

Take a look at the **McKinney Vento Law self tutorial powerpoint** at:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/pdffdoc/pgm_homeless/toolbox/liaisons_providers_0808.pdf

In addition, review the Homeless Liaison Worksheet for Determining Homeless Status and School Placement, which can be used to track student information and services:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/pdffdoc/pgm_homeless/toolbox/liaison_worksheet_0708.pdf

A quick overview of **the requirements of the McKinney Vento Law by topic area** is also available online at:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/pdffdoc/pgm_homeless/resources/key_provisions_summary.pdf

You will be required to provide **data at the end of the school year** on the number of homeless students served by grade level, as well as information on where that student was residing when identified. This worksheet will help you to track and easily report data at the end of the school year.

2009-10 McKinney Vento Information Packets...In September, you will receive the 2009-10 McKinney Vento information packet that includes all the information and tools that you will need to identify and support homeless students in your school.

Focus on Training for Your School Community...Federal law requires that students experiencing homelessness be identified and enrolled in school. One person serving as a Liaison cannot meet that requirement without engaging the school community. Schedule trainings using the **“The McKinney Vento Homeless Education Act: Liaison Training Tool for Administrators, Faculty and Staff” power point** at:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/pdffdoc/pgm_homeless/toolbox/admin_community_0109.pdf

NEWS and NOTES...

- The work of Vermont’s Homeless Education Liaisons was spotlighted in an article in the **Georgetown Journal on Poverty, Law and Policy, Winter 2009**.
<http://www.law.georgetown.edu/journals/poverty/issues.html>
- **“Homelessness Tied to Kid’s Mental Health”..**
http://news.yahoo.com/s/hsn/20090731/hl_hsn/homelessness_tied_to_kids_mental_health

If you have received this newsletter, you have been designated as the Homeless Education Liaison for your SU/SD to the Vermont Department of Education. To update information, contact Wendy Ross, State Coordinator, Education for Homeless Children and Youth at wendy.ross@state.vt.us or 828-5148.

The Homeless Education Website is located at: http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_homeless.html